

BUILDINGS MAY COLLAPSE ANY DAY

School Structures Unsafe and Dangerous, Says Inspector Beck.

SHOULD ABANDON BELLEVUE AND LEIGH

Official Report Shows Importance of Immediate Improvement, Though Council Has Failed to Regard Demand for Help.

NOTWITHSTANDING the urgent recommendations of the Building Inspector, concurred in by the Chief of the Fire Department, and the demand for speedy relief by the City School Board, City Council has taken no step whatever to remedy the conditions in the public schools, two of which were condemned outright, while several others were declared unsafe and in some cases above the second floor, and inadequately protected from serious risk in case of fire.

For several months the proposition providing adequate means of exit, and to make the buildings reasonably safe has slept on the table of the Finance Committee, and judging from the usual course, it may be fully two years before anything is done to remedy the defects pointed out after a careful inspection of each building. Nearly every public school structure in the city is affected by the report. Chalmers alone receiving a clean bill of health.

Ordered Careful Inspection. Following the holocaust at Boverton, O., last March, in which several hundred school children were sacrificed because of improper arrangement of the building, Mayor McCarthy requested Building Inspector Beck to make an examination of the condition of the public schools of Richmond. Chief George C. Shaw, of the Fire Department, joined Mr. Beck in the examination, which occupied the greater part of the month of March, and their report was transmitted by the Mayor to the School Board, which immediately requested an emergency appropriation to make the changes thought to be necessary.

In order not to alarm parents and occasion the removal of children from schools during the session, the text of the report was not made public at that time. The Council at its May meeting referred the proposition to the Finance Committee, but no action has been taken, and to the regret of the school authorities, the summer holiday months, in which repairs and changes can best be made, are slipping by.

In its petition to the Council, the School Board asked for four new buildings at a cost of \$200,000, and an even more urgent and immediate appropriation of \$47,390.12 to remedy the defects. The Board wanted a complete new building to replace Valley Colored School at 1400 East Marshall. In his report, Inspector Beck says: "This structure is dilapidated and wholly unsuited for school purposes. Long lines of stovepipes make the building dangerous at almost every point. The building has never been, is not now, nor ever will be, properly school building, and I recommend its discontinuance at once. In this conclusion, the Chief of the Fire Department fully concurs."

Colored Normal Condemned. The Colored Normal School is also condemned by the Inspector, and the School Board recommends its abandonment, rather than incur the cost of the repairs deemed absolutely necessary. The structure is old, and the stairs narrow and inadequate for exit. The recommendation of the Board is that the city erect a new white school to take the place of Leigh School, and that the Colored Normal be transferred to the Leigh School Building at First and Leigh Streets, the neighborhood having been largely settled by negroes. The estimated cost of a lot and new building for Leigh School, standing almost in the center of the city, is \$75,000. The Colored Normal School, formerly the colored armory building, the Board asks a four-room addition, and changes directed by the Building Inspector, to cost \$15,000. The Inspector found this building with the doors opening into wooden staircases, and no fire escapes.

The Board also asks for a complete new building for Sidney School, white, to stand on the handsome lot recently purchased at Sycamore and Chaffin Streets, to cost \$60,000, so as to meet the requirements of this highly settled portion of the annexed territory. The building is to replace an old and inadequate building erected by the county, in which the Building Inspector found the exits obstructed with wire screens, and the doors opening inwardly. There is but one staircase, three and a half feet wide, of wooden construction.

Even more urgent than these new buildings, the School Board deems the alterations called for at some of the large public school buildings in the center of the city, crowded as they are, to their utmost capacity. Madison School, standing at the corner of Madison and Cary Streets, attended by children from the best section of the city, and a comparatively modern building, was found with staircases only three feet wide, with closets for the storage of stationery and paper trash under the wooden staircases. The basement of the building is in a state of decay, and the fire escapes are in a state of disrepair. The Board recommends that the building be abandoned, and a new one be erected on the same site.

Wise Talks by the Office Boy

WILLIAM SCRUGGS

Pa says philosophy makes good reading for the man who has his rent paid. I guess it's better to be a goin'-to-be man than a never-was. I like to hear people talk about "has-beens." The world is full of them, of course, but they have done their life work, and are entitled to get off the map without being pushed off. Besides, some of them may take a new job, and then some of us fresh guys will have to look out. I tell you, experience counts. Experience made this store what it is, and nothing else. I only hope I may get enough of that useful appendage to stand for myself some day and be a how-lar from "way back." It would take people some time to get used to such a name as "William Scruggs" over the front door, but I'm not ashamed of it, and it wouldn't be long till they caught on to the fact that "Scruggs" was simply another name for honest merchandise and the square deal to every one. We are having a great sale now. Twenty per cent off on all summer clothing—men's, youths' or children's. Experience has taught me that a legitimate discount sale is appreciated by the buying public more than a "hurrah" sale. Come in for bargains. WILLIE.



to make this building safe for continued occupancy as a school are estimated to cost \$3,552.75. Should Abandon Bellevue. Bellevue School, at Twenty-second and Broad Streets, was found to be old, out of date, and dilapidated. The Inspector says: "The arrangement is extremely bad, and unless the two main flights of stairs are re-erected, I recommend that the use of the building be discontinued as a school above the second floor."

The staircases in this building are winding and open into rooms, there being no upper hall. The fire escapes are so located that they may become detached and fall to the ground at any time. The windows opening on fire escapes are almost entirely blocked by radiators. The doors of the annex open the wrong way, and there are many plank partitions in the furnace room.

Elba School, on West Marshall Street, fares but little better on inspection. The balcony floors of the fire escapes were found to be detached and almost useless. The windows opening on the fire escape were filled with potted plants, making access difficult. An additional fire escape on the other side of the building is regarded as an immediate need. The building is not considered especially dangerous, though old and out of repair.

The West End School, standing at Lombardy and Main Streets, one of the more modern of the city's school buildings, was found with two wooden staircases congested at the bottom. The windows are covered with wire screens nailed on, and all class room doors open inwardly. The basement doors open inwardly, and there is a wooden ceiling directly over the furnace, without any protection. There are no fire escapes. In the kindergarten annex the doors open inwardly, and the stove pipe has been run through wooden partitions, regardless of danger from fire.

Nicholson School, in Fulton, was found without adequate protection around the furnace, and with the stairs divided by a high fence. A wooden floor was found in the basement, with all doors opening inwardly. The stairs at the second story is but four feet wide. There are no fire escapes, and wooden obstructions have been placed before many windows to hold flower pots.

Fairmount School was bought from Henrico county at the time of the annexation, and the city is now adding an annex, the work on which blocks many of the exits to the present building. While there are fire-escapes, there are wire screens nailed securely over the windows leading to the fire stairs, and the stairs are in use in the building, although there is a furnace in the basement. The basement is littered with the accumulated rubbish of months, blocks of wood intended for fuel being piled directly against the furnace.

Leigh School, at First and Leigh Streets, now used for hundreds of white children from the central part of the city, was found to be fitted with fire-escapes of the same pattern as the one in the old Leigh School, and dangerous as a fire. Both the fire-escapes need overhauling and new floors for the balconies. All the windows are securely nailed with wire screens, and would prevent any child from getting to the fire-escape, the windows being almost blocked by radiators. Shelves for potted plants also block the exits. The Inspector says of this school: "I recommend that both stairways be subjected to fire-proof construction, or that the use of the third floor of the building be discontinued for school purposes."

the building erected upon such poor lines, and that the cost of the changes necessary to make it a proper school building would be so expensive, that I think a new and modern building would be the best under the circumstances."

The School Board, however, does not ask for a new building here, merely petitioning for \$1,120.25 for correcting the more dangerous and glaring defects.

Baker in Bad Condition. Baker School, at St. John and Baker Streets, is reported to be in an extremely dangerous condition, and until its heating system is changed and additional fire escapes erected, the Inspector urgently recommends that it be abandoned. The basement was found to be filling with unnecessary rubbish. The building is heated by stoves, the pipes of which run indiscriminately through floors and partitions.

Marshall School, at Nineteenth and Marshall Streets, was found wire-screened like a jail, with the additional obstruction of flower pots and radiators in the windows. The staircases are inadequate, and the class room doors open inwardly. There are no fire escapes, and the erection of two are urged immediately.

East End School, on Twenty-ninth Street, was found to be still heated with stoves, with long lines of pipe, regarded as a regular hazard in view of the inflammable character of the building, and the Inspector recommends that if this building is to be continued as a school, a furnace be installed in the basement without delay, and the present coal oil lamps removed. There is but one fourth of wooden staircase to the upper floor. The manual training annex has all doors opening inwardly, and all the windows are firmly secured with half-inch wire mesh nailed on. There are no fire escapes.

What Repairs Will Cost. Acting on the report of the Building Inspector and Fire Chief, the School Board has secured estimates on making the changes thought to be absolutely necessary. The following record showing the needs: Old High School Building (to be used but one year) \$25.00

Nicholson School \$3,552.75
Louisiana School 15.00
Oakwood School 5.00
Springfield School 1,120.25
Bellevue School 4,069.38
Marshall School 2,199.33
Central School 2,259.00
Leigh School 3,580.50
Madison School 3,582.75
Elba School 2,813.50
West End School 2,284.85
Randolph School 195.98
Sidney (colored) 15.23
Normal (colored) 11.00
Reidsville (colored) 4.75
East End (colored) 4,587.00
Twenty-ninth St. (colored) 152.00
Navy Hall (colored) 2,422.00
Baker (colored) 6,392.00
Monroe (colored) 14.00
Moore (colored) 2,533.65
Newtown (colored) 153.50
Sidney Annex (colored) 81.00
Architects fees and contingencies 5,000.00

Total for urgent alterations \$47,390.12
Should the new buildings be not allowed, it will be necessary in the judgment of the Building Inspector to repair the present condemned structures before they can be used, at the following cost:

Normal School \$5,575.00
Monroe School 4,100.00
Sidney School (white) 4,360.00
Additional \$14,135.00
Grand total, \$61,525.23.

Under a special appropriation the old High School Building, which will be used for one or more years until the new building is ready, is being equipped with new fire-escapes. While inadequate in size, this building is not considered dangerous. The use of the Jefferson Club annex without fire-escapes is severely condemned.

THE NEWS OF FREDERICKSBURG. Mr. Stearns to Supervise Erection of School—Opening Rising Sun Tavern. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FREDERICKSBURG, Va., June 27.—Mr. Frank H. Stearns, of this city, has been selected as general supervisor for the construction of the new \$35,000 public school building in this city, under the supervision of E. G. Hefflin is the contractor. The historic Rising Sun Tavern, in this city, owned by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, is being put in order, and will soon be opened for visitors under charge of a matron. The association will give a garden party on day July 2nd, from 5 to 8 o'clock P. M., on the grounds of the Mary Washington House in this city, proceeds to be used towards repairing the Rising Sun Tavern.

Mr. Robert Goodrich, son of Judge John T. Goodrich, of this city, has been appointed to the position of assistant city clerk. Mr. Edgar Cammon, of this city, has gone to West Virginia, where he will engage in mining work. Mr. C. Sidney Hunter, who has been in the United States Internal Revenue Service, stationed at Richmond, has resigned and returned to his old home here to engage in business.

Bristow-Tyler. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) TAPPANNOCK, Va., June 27.—At high noon to-day in the Baptist Church, Rev. Thomas Lewis united in matrimony Miss Eunice Gresham Tyler and Dr. H. V. Bristow. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. W. T. Bristow, of this city. The groom is a native of Richmond, and was formerly a member of the Richmond High School. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Bristow, of this city. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Lewis, assisted by Mr. Bristow and Mr. Allen Latane acted as ushers.

Pony and Cart Contest

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Look at The Times-Dispatch Every Morning for Full Particulars Regarding This Contest.

On September 25, 1908, The Times-Dispatch will give to the boy or girl receiving the largest number of votes a fine PONY AND CART.

To the boy receiving the second largest number of votes we will give ONE FINE GOLD WATCH, fully guaranteed.
To the girl receiving the second largest number of votes we will give ONE FINE GOLD WATCH (girl's size), fully guaranteed.
To the boy receiving the third largest number of votes we will give ONE LARGE BOX OF BEST GRADE TOOLS (not a toy, but A REAL FULL-SIZED SET).

The Pony and Cart contest is open to any boy or girl reader of The Times-Dispatch anywhere. Boys and girls between the ages of six and sixteen may participate. Children of any employees of The Times-Dispatch cannot take part in this contest.

How to Get Votes.

Conditions of the Contest

A coupon will be printed each day in The Times-Dispatch, which will be good for one vote if clipped out, properly filled and sent in to this office before the date of expiration printed on each coupon. Votes will also be given with each paid-in-advance subscription you send in, according to the scale printed below. Always be sure to mention whether your subscriptions are NEW or RENEWALS, for we allow more votes on new subscribers than on renewals, as you will see by the schedule.

Contest Starts To-Day, Closes September 25th

The votes will be counted each week and the standing of contestants published every Sunday. At 6 o'clock on the night of September 25th the ballot box will be unlocked, the final count will be made, and the prize-winners announced. Start to work NOW, as the gain made in the start will be an encouragement to all of your friends to support you to the finish. It should be very easy to

Write or call at Times-Dispatch office for full information, receipt books, etc. Sample copies will be sent if desired. Address all communications PONY CONTEST, care of The Times-Dispatch.

Out-of-Town Rates

(Payable in Advance.)

BY MAIL.	One Year.	Six Months.	Three Months.
Postage Prepaid.			
Daily with Sunday (7 issues).....	\$6.00	\$3.00	\$1.50
Daily without Sunday (6 issues).....	4.00	2.00	1.00
Sunday edition only.....	2.00	1.00

City Rates

(Payable in Advance.)

BY TIMES-DISPATCH CARRIER DELIVERY SERVICE IN RICHMOND AND SUBURBS, MANCHESTER AND PETERSBURG.	Twelve Months.	Six Months.	Three Months.
Daily with Sunday.....	\$3.25	\$1.75
Daily without Sunday.....	4.50	2.25	1.25
Sunday only.....	2.50	1.15

ALDERMEN CONCUR IN COUNCIL'S ACT

Closes Up Financial Affairs for Fiscal Year and Gives Assent to Other Measures.

PETERSBURG GRAYS IN CAMP

March Out to Ellerslie to Spend Sunday—Woman Uses Ax on Husband—Room Robbed.

Times-Dispatch Bureau, 103 North Sycamore Street, Petersburg, Va., June 27.—The Board of Aldermen, at an adjourned meeting, last evening concurred in all acts of the Common Council at the meeting held last Monday to wind up the financial affairs for the fiscal year ending June 30th, including the carrying forward of unexpended balances of appropriations for public improvements, aggregating about \$73,000. The Board also concurred in the Council's resolution abolishing the special committee on sewers, sidewalks and water mains, and in the ordinance requiring the operators of moving-picture establishments to take certain special precautions against fire.

Petersburg Grays in Camp

Ellerslie, the beautiful Dunlop farm, in Chesterfield county, three miles from Petersburg, is this week the headquarters of the Petersburg Grays, a company of light infantry, under the command of Captain Benjamin Harrison, marched out this afternoon, and will return to-morrow evening. The Grays are holding regular weekly encampments in preparation for the national encampment at Chickamauga in July.

Used Ax on Him.

Julia Branch, colored, was sent on to the grand jury from the Mayor's Court this morning for operating on a drunken husband's head with an ax. James Branch, the wounded husband, appeared in court with his head swathed in bandages and stated that Julia attacked him while he was asleep, but that he was unwilling to prosecute her. The wife claimed that Branch had beaten her several times when he was drunk, and during a quarrel between them last night at their home, he had threatened to attack her.

Brief Petersburg Items.

The rooms of Messrs Joe Bailey, of Emporia, and W. C. Snaap, of this city, in the Prospect Hotel building, on Ballingbrook Street, were robbed early yesterday morning by an unknown thief, who secured a couple of watches

GOOD FOR ONE VOTE

IN THE TIMES-DISPATCH PONY CONTEST

I Cast One Vote for

P. O. and State

This ballot must be voted before July 2d.

secure a few subscriptions; and you can easily see how fast the votes will count. SAVE THE COUPONS, have all your friends and neighbors save them for you, as every one will count just that much more.

Schedule of Votes Allowed on Subscriptions

	New Votes.	Renewal Votes.
Twelve months' subscription, Daily and Sunday.....	800	400
Six months' subscription, Daily and Sunday.....	400	150
Three months' subscription, Daily and Sunday.....	120	60
Twelve months' subscription, Daily without Sunday.....	700	350
Six months' subscription, Daily without Sunday.....	240	120
Three months' subscription, Daily without Sunday.....	80	40
Twelve months' subscription, Sunday only.....	400	200
Six months' subscription, Sunday only.....	140	70

BOTH LOVED SAME GIRL

In Quarrel Over Her, Basil Watson Fatally Slain Charles Jones.

SYLVIA, N. C., June 27.—In a quarrel over a young woman with whom both were in love, Charles Jones, eighteen years old, was stabbed to death last night by Basil Watson, twenty-three years old.

Watson, who claims he stabbed Jones in self-defense, fled over the State line into the mountains of South Carolina, after the tragedy. It is reported he surrendered to the authorities later.

DEATH FOLLOWS CHEERING

Col. Butler, Millionaire, Who Became Excited in Convention, Dead.

CINCINNATI, O., June 27.—News was received here last night of the death at Silverton, Col., of Joseph C. Butler, millionaire, head of the big Butler estate in this city. Mr. Butler, together with C. J. Christie, former Mayor Fleischmann's representative, and several other prominent Cincinnatians, was en route to Colorado to inspect mining property, and stopped at Chicago to attend the Republican convention. Mr. Butler was a great admirer of President Roosevelt, and when the attempt to stampede the delegates to Roosevelt was made he joined frantically for fully thirty minutes in the cheering. He then left the hall in an utterly exhausted state. Although the trip to Colorado was made, Mr. Butler arrived at the destination in an unconscious condition and never regained consciousness, dying last night. He was 42 years old, and when he left home was apparently in good health.

MONUMENT PLACED IN POSITION AND TO BE UNVEILED TUESDAY

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BUCKINGHAM, VA., June 27.—The contractors for the Soldiers' monument will complete the work of placing the monument in position to-day, and the ceremony will be advanced by private parties until the amount in bank becomes available. The monument is expected to be unveiled on Tuesday, the 30th, when the cornerstone is to be laid, and it is probable that the unveiling will take place at the same time, as everything is ready.

CHANGE IN SCHEDULE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO RAILWAY COMPANY.

Commencing Sunday, June 28th, Train No. 10 will leave Richmond 8:50 A. M., instead of 9:00 A. M., running daily to Charlottesville, and daily except Sunday to Clifton Forge via the Parlor Car. Through train for the West leaving Richmond at 3:00 P. M. will carry Parlor Car attached toifton Forge, Va.

James River Train No. 11, leaving Richmond 5:15 P. M., will carry through sleeper to Clifton Forge via Lynchburg and Natural Bridge daily except Sunday. This sleeper reaching Richmond on return train, No. 12, 8:35 A. M., daily except Sunday.

Local train from Old Point and New Market, leaving Richmond 8:15 A. M., instead of 8:50 A. M. No other changes in departures and arrivals at Richmond.

NEW TRIAL IS REFUSED

Judge Farnell Declines to Set Aside Verdict in Miller Case.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, Va., June 27.—Following acrimonious arguments to-day in the Federal court between counsel on both sides of the case, Judge Farnell overruled a motion to set aside the verdict and grant a new trial in the case of Hugh Gordon Miller, against the Norfolk and Portsmouth Traction Company. Notice of an appeal to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals was given.

Mr. Miller was given a verdict for \$3,000. He sued for \$25,000.

Hotel Men at Hot Springs.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) HOT SPRINGS, VA., June 27.—A party of hotel people drove over from Natural Bridge yesterday, taking luncheon and dinner at the Homestead, leaving for Richmond on the night train. Among the party were Mr. Murphy and Mr. Lee Davis, all of Richmond, Mr. Curtis, of the Times-Dispatch, being with the party. Mr. Rueger remained over at the Hot for a few days. Mr. John Hanahan and wife, of the Chesapeake Hotel, Petersburg, were also with the party.

RUN OVER BY TRAIN AND DIES FROM INJURIES

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WINCHESTER, Va., June 27.—Lee Dunbrack, a young white man, who was run over by a Norfolk and Western train at Shenandoah City last night, died this afternoon at Dr. Tucker's hospital, Berryville, as a result of injuries sustained. Dunbrack's home was in Keyser, W. Va. He was thirty-one years of age, and unmarried.

Indy Shocked By Wire.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WHITE PLAINS, Va., June 27.—Mrs. Brumwell, living in the home of Mr. Lee Temple, of this place, during the storm Thursday evening, came in contact with the telephone wire which